

## WHEN HOPE IS GONE

by Tim Bass

**GENRE:** Comedy

**SYNOPSIS:** When a man in a shopping mall realizes that he's lost hope, his fellow shoppers try to help.

**DIRECTOR'S TIP:** Keep the dialogue driving at a fast pace for comedic effect, with no pause between lines.

**TIME:** Under 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 5

**TOPIC:** Hope

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Psalm 71:5, Romans 5:3-5

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** Any

**SUGGESTED USE:** Sermon Starter

**CHARACTERS:**

ADAM  
TINA  
JACK  
JANET  
HOPE

**PROPS:** Shopping bags filled with items

**COSTUMES:** Contemporary

**SOUND:** Five wireless microphones

**LIGHTING:** General stage

**SETTING:** A shopping mall

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*Lights up on ADAM. He is standing with several shopping bags. He appears lost, dejected. TINA walks up.*

**TINA:** Uh, excuse me...sir...are you all right?

**ADAM:** Wha...what? Oh. Uh, yeah...yes...I'm uh...I'm fine.

**TINA:** Are you sure? You look, I don't know, lost?

**ADAM:** No. I'm just...I was just standing here and I had these packages in my hand and I looked down at them, at the clothes and books and gifts and all this stuff, and I looked up and I realized it. I've lost hope.

**TINA:** No! No. Don't say that. You haven't. You can't believe that. You must not believe that!

**JACK:** *(Walking up)* Is everything okay?

**ADAM:** Oh, sure, I just...

**TINA:** He's lost hope!

**JACK:** Lost hope?

**TINA:** Yes.

**ADAM:** Look, I just...

**JACK:** C'mon, man! Buck up!

**TINA:** Buck up? That's all you got? Buck up? This man has lost hope. Hope is gone. Bye-bye hope. Adios hope and all you got is, "Buck up?"

**JANET:** *(Walking up)* What's going on?

**JACK/TINA:** He's lost hope!

**JANET:** No!

**JACK:** Yes!

**JANET:** No!

**TINA:** Yes!

**JANET:** No!

**ADAM:** Look...